

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4399

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: ATLANTIC RELATIONS

REF: USNATO 4380

SUMMARY: AT LUNCH SEPTEMBER 18 CANADIAN PERMREP REFERRED TO DRAFT TRANSATLANTIC DECLARATION HE WAS CIRCULATING. OTHERS WELCOMED CANADIAN INITIATIVE AND DISCUSSED WHEN TO BEGIN DRAFTING A NATO DECLARATION AND ELEMENTS IT SHOULD CONTAIN. SOME PROPOSED SYG LUNS HOLD HIS PERSONAL DRAFT IN ABEYANCE. PERMREPS ALSO EXCHANGED PRELIMINARY IDEAS ON ARRANGEMENTS DURING POSSIBLE VISIT TO EUROPE BY PRESIDENT NIXON. END SUMMARY.

1. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR MENZIES ANNOUNCED AT SEPTEMBER 18 PERMREPS LUNCH THAT HE WAS CIRCULATING A DRAFT DECLARATION (REFTEL) WHICH NATO MIGHT ISSUE ON THE OCCASION OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S PROSPECTIVE VISIT TO EUROPE. HE DESCRIBED THE CANADIAN DELEGATION DRAFT AS A SHORT, SIMPLE, DIRECT PAPER WHICH HE HOPED WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE ALLIES AND WHICH WOULD ENABLE NATO TO ADDRESS ITS ATTENTION TO A DRAFT DECLARATION ON AN URGENT BASIS NOW THAT THE EC NINE HAVE PROGRESSED SO RAPIDLY FOLLOWING THEIR DELIBERATIONS IN COPENHAGEN.
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2. MENZIES SUGGESTED THAT IF THE CANADIAN DRAFT OR SOME VARIANT OF IT FINDS FAVOR WITH THE COUNCIL, PERMREPS MIGHT FORWARD IT TO THEIR CAPITALS FOR AN INSTRUCTED DISCUSSION IN THE NAC A WEEK OR TWO HENCE.

3. MENZIES HOPED SYG LUNS WOULD HOLD HIS PERSONAL DRAFT DECLARATION IN ABEYANCE UNTIL AN APPROPRIATE MOMENT WHEN IT WOULD BE TIMELY AND USEFUL. TURKISH PERMREP AGREED, AND LOOKED FORWARD TO A DISCUSSION TO BROADEN UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE FIFTEEN.

4. FRG PERMREP KRAPF ENDORSED THE CANADIAN INITIATIVE, ASSERTING THAT THE NATO DECLARATION SHOULD NOT BE A MERE ANNEX TO THE ONE WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE EC NINE HAD WORKED OUT IN COPENHAGEN. BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE EXPRESSED HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR THE CANADIAN MOVE AND HOPED THE DRAFT DECLARATION PREPARED BY THE CANADIAN DELEGATION WOULD ENABLE THE NAC TO DISREGARD AND PUT BEHIND IT ALL DRAFTS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS. UK AND ITALIAN PERMREPS PECK AND CATALANO AGREED WITH DE STAERCKE.

5. FRENCH ACTING PERMREP CARRAUD WELCOMED THIS EXPRESSION OF CANADIAN VIEWS BUT SUGGESTED THAT THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE WAS STILL LABORING ON ITS CHECKLIST, THAT ONLY SECURITY MATTERS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED BY NATO, AND THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO DECIDE WHAT SUBJECTS COULD BEST BE COVERED IN A NATO DRAFT UNTIL THE NINE AND THE UNITED STATES HAD COMPLETED THEIR PRELIMINARY TALKS.

6. DEPUTY SYG PANSAL REJOINED THAT ATLANTIC RELATIONS HAD IN THE LIGHT OF EVENTS IN COPENHAGEN NOW BECOME AN URGENT ISSUE, THAT NATO SHOULD MAINTAIN A CERTAIN MOMENTUM IN A BASIC POLITICAL QUESTION OF THIS SORT AND THAT THE SYG ALWAYS WELCOMED ALL THE IDEAS FROM ALL OF THE ALLIES. DE STAERCKE UNDERLINED THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES COULD THE NATO DECLARATION CONFINE ITSELF SOLELY TO THE QUESTIONS OF SECURITY AND DEFENSE.

7. MANZIES SUGGESTED THAT THE NAC SHOULD BEGIN TO DISCUSS THE TYPE OF CEREMONY WHICH MIGHT BE HELD IF PRESIDENT NIXON
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WERE TO COME TO NATO HEADQUARTERS. HE PROPOSED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER WHO IS THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THIS YEAR (NOTE: VAN DER STOEL OF THE NETHERLANDS) MIGHT CHAIR THE SESSION AND MAKE A FEW OPENING REMARKS. THESE COULD BE FOLLOWED BY A SPEECH BY PRESIDENT NIXON. THE SYG COULD THEN GIVE A REVIEW OF THE WORK IN WHICH NATO HAS MOST RECENTLY BEEN ENGAGED IN BOLSTERING ATLANTIC RELATIONS.

8. DE STAERCKE REMARKED THAT IF THE PRESIDENT DOES PLAN TO COME TO EUROPE, IT APPEARED INEVITABLE THAT THERE WOULD BE TWO DECLARATIONS: ONE IN THE U.S./EC CONTEXT AND THE SECOND TO BE ISSUED AT NATO. WHETHER THE PRESIDENT CAME IN 1973 OR 1974 WAS SUBSIDIARY TO THE EUROPEAN NEED TO PREPARE THEIR OWN THINKING SO THAT THEY CAN ADDRESS

ADEQUATELY THE GREAT QUESTIONS WHICH DR. KISSINGER RAISED.
DE STAERCKE HOPED ALL THE ALLIES COULD BE KEPT ABREST OF
THE KISSINGER/ANDERSEN DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK. NETHERLANDS
ACTING PERMREP BUWALDA OBSERVED THAT PRESIDENT NIXON MIGHT
NOT COME TO EUROPE UNLESS HE COULD MEET IN AN APPROPRIATE
FORUM WITH PERSONS AT HIS OWN LEVEL; THIS RAISED A DIFFI-
CULT POINT IN THAT HE IS BOTH HEAD OF STATE AND HEAD OF
GOVERNMENT. KRAPF, RECALLING THE DISCUSSIONS IN
SAN CLEMENTE, SAID THAT ONE SHOULD NOT EXPECT THE PRESIDENT
TO COME TO EUROPE THIS YEAR AFTER NOVEMBER 15.
RUMSFELD.

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